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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 20 July 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to our earlier letters concerning Israel's attacks on southern Lebanon and the Western Bekaa and the arbitrary practices against the civilian inhabitants in which it engages on a daily basis, I have the honour to notify you of the series of such incidents that took place in June 1998.

1 June 1998

Between 0135 and 0600 hours the Israeli occupying forces and their client militia fired several 155-mm shells at outlying areas of Yatar, Majdal Silm and Mayfadun and areas along the Zahrani River from their positions at Tall Ya'qub, Mays al-Jabal and Zafatah.

At 0630 hours Israeli forces fired several 120-mm shells at Jabal Safi from their positions at Ksarat al-Urush.

Between 0950 and 1040 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at high altitudes.

At 1400 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm and 120-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Tiri and Haddatha from Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal, Ruways, Qantarah and Tallusah.

At 1940 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 120-mm shells at Jabal al-Rafi' from their positions at Ksarat al-Urush and Zafatah.

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2 June 1998

Between 0030 and 0300 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm and 81-mm artillery shells and directed a number of bursts of fire at outlying areas of Rshaf and Haddatha and at areas along the Zahrani River from their positions at Suwayda hill and Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal.

At 0830 hours elements belonging to the client militia at the Hamra-Mansuri crossing fired several rounds of light-weapons fire into the air while the French delegation to the Monitoring Group established by the ceasefire understanding of 26 April 1996 was crossing to Naqurah. No one was hurt.

At 1200 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired nine 155-mm and 120-mm shells at outlying areas of Qabrikha and Tulin and at Wadi al-Qaysiyah from their positions at Hula and Bawwabat Markaba.

3 June 1998

Between 0410 and 0435 hours Israeli forces fired 81-mm mortar shells at areas around the abandoned Army barracks in Nabatiyah from their position at Dabshah hill.

At 2100 hours Israeli forces fired four 120-mm shells at areas of Jabal Sujud and Jabal al-Rafi' from their position at Ksarat al-Urush.

At 2145 hours the client militia fired two illumination flares over outlying areas of Kafr Tibnit from its position on Burj hill.

At 2315 hours the client militia fired three 155-mm shells at Mazra'at al-Hamra from its position at Zafatah.

4 June 1998

Between 0805 and 1100 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm and 120-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Rafi' and at areas along the Tasah Spring and the Litani River from their positions at Suwayda, Ksarat al-Urush and Shurayfah.

Between 0930 and 1000 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Tibnin area at high altitudes.

Between 1810 and 1940 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm shells at Wadi Jabal al-Rafi' and areas around Sujud hill and Suwayda hill from their positions at Ksarat al-Urush and on Suwayda, Sujud and Anan hills.

Between 2300 and 2320 hours two Israeli helicopters overflew the Maydun area of the Western Bekaa.

5 June 1998

Between 0005 and 0500 hours the client militia fired several 81-mm shells and directed several bursts of fire at areas along the Zahrani River and at Jabal al-Rafi' from its positions on Suwayda hill and Sujud hill.

Between 0900 and 1100 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Kafr Falus, Iqlim al-Tuffah and Nabatiyah areas at high altitude.

At 1340 hours the client militia directed several bursts of fire at Wadi Bisri from its position on Anan hill.

At 2050 hours Israeli forces fired a 120-mm mortar shell into the area around Sujud hill from their position at Ksarat al-Urush.

6 June 1998

Between 0045 and 0720 hours Israeli and client forces fired several 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells and directed bursts of fire at the abandoned Army barracks and areas around Qasr Ghandur in Nabatiyah al-Fawqa, at areas along the Zahrani River and at parts of Sujud from their positions at Dabshah hill, Ksarat al-Urush and on Tahrah hill and Ali al-Tahir hill.

At 1400 hours the client militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at Jabal Bi'r al-Dahr from the Zimriya crossing.

Between 1950 and 2135 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Nabatiyah, Iqlim al-Tuffah and Sidon areas.

7 June 1998

At 0610 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Tyre area at medium altitude dropping heat balloons in outlying areas of Mansuri, Majdal Zun and Zibqin.

At 1630 hours Israeli forces fired three 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Bi'r al-Dahr and areas along the Litani River from their position at Abu Qamhah.

Between 1950 and 2030 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah area and the area to the east of Sidon at high altitude.

8 June 1998

Between 0015 and 0630 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew Nabatiyah, Iqlim al-Tuffah, Sidon and the coastal Shuf area at high altitude.

Between 1225 and 1240 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South and the Batrun area at high altitudes.

At 2030 hours Israeli forces fired several 120-mm mortar shells at areas along the Tasah Spring and at Mazra'at Umqata from their position at Ksarat al-Urush.

9 June 1998

At 0610 and 0625 hours the client militia fired several 120-mm shells at areas along the Zahrani River from its position at Zafatah.

Between 0835 and 1130 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Nabatiyah, Iqlim al-Tuffah and Sidon areas at high altitude. Two Israeli helicopters also overflew Luwayzah and Mlikh at high altitude.

At 1325 hours the client militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas around the Zimriya crossing from its position on Zimriya hill.

At 2355 hours an Israeli gunboat at sea off the coast between Rashidiyah camp and Mansuri fired bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

10 June 1998

Between 1000 and 1730 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the South at high altitude.

Between 1445 and 1735 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm mortar shells at Wadi Bisri and areas around Dabshah hill and Rum hill from their positions on Dabshah, Rum and Anan hills.

Between 1115 and 2200 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm, 120-mm and 81-mm artillery shells at Mlita hill, areas along the Tasah Spring, Mazra'at Umqata and outlying areas of Kafr Rumman from their positions at Zafatah, on Dabshah, Tahrah and Sujud hills and in Ksarat al-Urush.

Between 1540 and 1600 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Tyre areas at high altitude.

At 2120 hours an Israeli gunboat at sea off Mansuri fired an illumination flare over the coast.

At 2335 hours the client militia fired several 81-mm mortar shells at areas around Qasr Ghandur in Nabatiyah from its position on Ali al-Tahir hill.

11 June 1998

Between 0035 and 0445 hours the client militia fired several illumination flares over Kafr Tibnit and areas along the Zahrani River from its position on Ali al-Tahir hill.

Between 0400 and 0600 hours an Israeli gunboat at sea off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 1830 hours Israeli warplanes attacked the Karkha-Jun-Anan triangle, firing an air-to-surface missile. Several homes in Jun were hit.

Between 2130 and 2215 hours the client militia fired five 120-mm shells at areas along the Bisri River and outlying areas of Mazra'at al-Dahr from its position on Tahrah hill.

12 June 1998

Between 0025 and 0550 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm shells at Wadi Bisri, the Mu'aytah woodland and areas along the Zahrani River from their positions on Rum, Sujud and Suwayda hills and in Ksarat al-Urush.

Between 1030 and 1130 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South and the Rashayya, Ayn al-Tinah and Maydun areas.

At 2115 hours Israeli forces fired four 120-mm shells at areas along the Tasah Spring from their position in Ksarat al-Urush.

13 June 1998

Between 0330 and 0530 hours three Israeli gunboats patrolled the coast between Bayyadah and Tyre, firing several bursts of medium automatic-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0750 and 0815 hours the client militia fired two shells and directed several bursts of fire at Wadi Bisri and the Mu'aytah woodland from its position on Rum hill.

At 1520 the client militia fired two 81-mm shells at outlying areas of Tiri from its position at Ruways.

Between 2010 and 2230 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 120-mm and 81-mm shells at the Mu'aytah woodland, Wadi Bisri and Mazra'at Umqata from their positions on Rum and Sujud hills and in Ksarat al-Urush.

14 June 1998

At 1155 hours an Israeli gunboat at sea off Sahl al-Qulaylah directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at the fishing boats there.

At 1315 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Mansuri and Majdal Zun from their position at Tall Ya'qub.

Between 1600 and 1930 hours the client militia strafed the areas around its positions on Suwayda hill and Anan hill with medium-weapons fire.

At 1750 hours the client militia fired seven 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar from its position at Tall Ya'qub.

15 June 1998

Between 0245 and 0530 hours Israeli forces and the client militia in positions on Suwayda, Dabshah and Tahrah hills, fired several 81-mm shells and directed bursts of fire at areas around those positions and areas along the Zahrani River.

Between 0820 and 1200 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, the North, Mount Lebanon and the Western Bekaa at high altitudes while breaking the sound barrier.

At 1850 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar from their positions at Tall Ya'qub and in the Razlan hills.

Between 2010 and 2020 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, the coastal Shuf area and the Western Bekaa and released heat balloons.

16 June 1998

At 2515 hours Israeli warplanes attacked areas around Sujud hill and Jabal al-Rafi' and fired three air-to-surface missiles.

Between 1300 and 1440 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm shells at the outskirts of Luwayzah and at Mlita hill, Jabal Safi and Jabal al-Rafi' from their positions on Sujud hill and in Ksarat al-Urush.

Between 1655 and 2100 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at high altitudes.

At 2140 hours two illumination flares were fired over Zimriya hill from the occupied strip.

17 June 1998

Between 0100 and 0800 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm and 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Rafi' and at areas along the Tasah Spring and the Zahrani River from their positions at Ksarat al-Urush and Zafatah and on Sujud, Ali al-Tahir and Suwayda hills.

At 4511 hours the client militia directed several bursts of fire at Mlikh from its position on Razlan hill.

Between 0230 and 0318 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the South at high altitude.

Between 1920 and 2040 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired 120-mm and 81-mm shells at areas along the Tasah Spring, Mazra'at Umqata and Mlikh from their positions at Ksarat al-Urush and on Razlan and Sujud hills.

18 June 1998

Between 1115 and 1150 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar and directed several bursts of fire at the Mu'aytah woodland from their positions at Tall Ya'qub and on Rum hill.

Between 1215 and 1225 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Haddatha from their position at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal.

Between 1350 and 1430 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm shells and directed several bursts of fire at areas along the Litani River from their positions at Sal'ah and Tall Ya'qub.

Between 1545 and 1850 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Zaghlah and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas.

19 June 1998

Between 0440 and 0525 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired ten 155-mm artillery shells and four 120-mm mortar shells at Wadi al-Qaysiyah and outlying areas of Majdal Silm, Sawwanah and Tulin from their positions at Tallusah and Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal.

Between 0500 and 4550 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts in all directions.

At 2310 hours the client militia fired two shells at outlying areas of Shaqra from its position at Hula.

At 2355 hours the client militia fired an illumination flare over Mansuri from its position on Hardhun hill.

20 June 1998

Between 0020 and 0555 hours Israeli forces fired several 81-mm mortar shells at areas around Qasr Ghandur and the abandoned Army barracks in Nabatiyah from their position on Dabshah hill.

At 0920 hours the client militia fired three 81-mm mortar shells at Wadi Bisri from its position on Rum hill.

Between 1415 and 1600 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah and Nabatiyah areas at high altitude.

At 2220 hours Israeli forces fired illumination flares over the area around the Zimriya crossing from their positions in the occupied strip.

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21 June 1998

The Bayt Yahun crossing, controlled by the client militia, remained closed to passage in both directions all day.

Between 1635 and 1645 hours the client militia fired six 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Haddatha from its positions at Ruways and Shaqif al-Naml.

At 1750 hours the client militia fired seven 81-mm shells towards the south-eastern part of the Kafr Falus area.

22 June 1998

Between 0750 and 0725 hours Israeli forces fired seven 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Haddatha and Yatar from their positions at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal and Tall Ya'qub.

At 1015 hours the client militia directed several bursts of fire at the Mu'aytah woodland from its position on Rum hill.

At 1250 hours Israeli forces fired two 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi' and the area around Sujud hill from their position in Ksarat al-Urush.

Between 2030 and 2240 hours the client militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi', areas along the Zahrani River and outlying areas of Mansuri and Majdal Zun from its positions in Zafatah and on Rum hill.

23 June 1998

Between 1000 and 1200 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at various altitudes.

Between 1300 and 1445 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm and 120-mm artillery shells at Mazra'at Umqata, Mlikh, Jabal Safi and areas along the Tasah Spring from their positions in Ksarat al-Urush and Zafatah and on Sujud and Razlan hills.

Between 1730 and 2120 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm and 120-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar, Zibqin, Majdal Zun and Mansuri and at Jabal al-Rafi' from their positions at Tall Ya'qub, Yarin, Ksarat al-Urush and Razlan.

At 1905 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah area at high altitude.

24 June 1998

Between 0930 and 0940 hours an Israeli helicopter overflew areas along the Litani River and Sujud hill at high altitude.

Between 1230 and 1315 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Mansuri, Majdal Zun and Izziyah from their position at Tall Ya'qub.

The Bayt Yahun crossing, controlled by the client militia, remained closed to passage in both directions all day.

Between 1600 and 1630 hours an Israeli MK reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Sidon and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas at high altitude.

Between 1700 and 1850 hours Israeli forces and the client militia directed several bursts of fire at the area around Qasr Ghandur in Nabatiyah and at Wadi Bisri from their positions on Ali al-Tahir hill and Anan hill.

25 June 1998

Between 0030 and 0530 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm shells and directed several bursts of fire at the area around Qasr Ghandur in Nabatiyah al-Fawqa and areas along the Zahrani River.

Between 1225 and 1430 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah and Nabatiyah areas at high altitude.

At 1350 hours the client militia fired three 81-mm shells at outlying areas of Haddatha from its position in Ruways.

Between 1735 and 2350 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several shells directly at outlying areas of Yatar and the Mu'aytah woodland from their positions at Jabal Balat and on Tahrah and Rum hills.

26 June 1998

Between 0400 and 0540 hours Israeli forces and the client militia, in positions at Tall Ya'qub, Ruways and Shaqif al-Naml, fired several 155-mm artillery shells at areas around those positions and at outlying areas of Yatar.

Between 0445 and 0515 hours an Israeli gunboat at sea off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0800 and 1200 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the South at high altitude.

Between 2000 and 2100 hours the client militia strafed the areas around its position on Suwayda hill with medium-weapons fire.

27 June 1998

Between 0315 and 0415 hours an Israeli gunboat at sea off Rashidiyah camp fired several bursts in all directions.

At 0850 hours the client militia directed several bursts of fire at outlying areas of Kafr Rumman from its position on Suwayda hill.

Between 1405 and 1455 hours Israeli forces fired several 120-mm shells at Mazra'at Umqata and the outskirts of Mlikh and at Jabal Sujud and Jabal Safi.

Between 1440 and 1535 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Nabatiyah area at high altitude.

Between 2045 and 2215 hours the client militia fired five 120-mm shells at the area around Anan hill, Wadi Bisri, the Mu'aytah woodland and the area around Suwayda hill.

28 June 1998

Between 0130 and 0535 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm shells and directed several bursts of fire at the outskirts of Mazra'at Umqata and at Luwayzah and Wadi Bisri from their positions at Ksarat al-Urush and on Rum hill.

Between 0615 and 0635 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the area to the east of Sidon at high altitude.

Between 1500 and 1810 hours the client militia directed several bursts of fire at Mlita hill from its position on Sujud hill.

Between 2105 and 2205 hours the client militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at Mlikh, the Mu'aytah woodland and Wadi Bisri from its positions on Razlan, Rum and Anan hills.

At 2310 hours Israeli forces and the client militia strafed the areas around their positions on Radar hill and Rum hill with medium-weapons fire.

29 June 1998

Between 0105 and 0735 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells at Mlikh, areas along the Tasah Spring, Mazra'at Umqata and Wadi Bisri from their positions at Ksarat al-Urush and on Rum and Razlan hills.

Between 0800 and 1000 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the South at high altitude.

At 1330 hours Israeli forces fired three 120-mm mortar shells at areas around Mashgharah from their position at Tumat Jazzin.

Between 1455 and 1505 hours Israeli warplanes carried out two attacks, on Jabal Ayn al-Tinah and the area around Tumat Jazzin, firing four air-to-surface missiles.

30 June 1998

At 0955 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Nabatiyah area at high altitude.

Between 1100 and 1115 hours Israeli warplanes carried out two attacks, on Jabal al-Rafi' and on areas along the Tasah Spring, firing four air-to-surface missiles.

Between 1710 and 1730 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar and Shaqra from their positions at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal and Tall Ya'qub.

Between 2035 and 2220 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm and 120-mm artillery shells at parts of Jabal Sujud, areas along the Zahrani River and outlying areas of Jba' and Mazra'at al-Hamra from their positions in Ksarat al-Urush and Zafatah.

At 2130 hours an Israeli helicopter overflew Jabal al-Rafi' and Jabal Sujud at high altitude.

The Lebanese Government strongly condemns the continued Israeli occupation and the fresh attacks and arbitrary practices against the Lebanese civilian population that have caused further serious damage to property.

Like previous attacks, this new series is in flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and constitutes a breach of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, of international law and of basic human rights.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samir MOUBARAK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative